

RICHARD J. DURBIN

ILLINOIS

ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-1304

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

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COMMITTEE ON RULES  
AND ADMINISTRATION

August 11, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in support of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the Cities of Champaign and Urbana, and the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District's (CUMTD) application for a Tiger VI grant to fund the Multimodal Corridor Enhancement (MCORE) project.

The MCORE project proposes to rehabilitate streets on core transit corridors to bring them into a state of good repair while redesigning them to safely accommodate all users. This will improve the poor condition of the existing transportation system by fixing damaged pavement, which currently threatens the safety and efficiency of the network for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and vehicles. The project will also enhance the design of streets by creating reduced-width lanes, on-street bicycle lanes, shared lane markings, bus only lanes, bicycle/bus lanes, curb bump-outs, ADA accessible curb ramps, enhanced bus stops, vehicle and pedestrian level street lighting, bus prioritization of traffic signals, and streetscape elements.

Over 80 percent of jobs in the Champaign-Urbana are located within one mile of the project. Increasing efficiency and options for mobility will increase all road users' access to major employers, education, healthcare, and essential services. This will increase the employment rate and job availability, as well as promote a higher quality of life.

I urge you to give the MCORE project serious consideration. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
U.S. Senator